

PRICE TWOPENCE.

LIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF THE HAWKESBURY.

A MEETING of the Electors of the abovementioned Electoral District will be held at the Court-house, Windsor, at 10 o'clock a.m., on WEDNESDAY, the 4th day of April next, for the purpose of Nominating and Electing Members to serve in the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in the room of William Richman Piddington, whose seat has been declared vacant by reason of his acceptance of the office of Colonial Treasurer; and, in the event of the Election being contested, and more candidates than one proposed, a poll must be taken, the polling will take place on SATURDAY, the 6th day of April next, at 10 o'clock a.m., the polling places, commencing at 9 o'clock a.m., and finally closing at 4 o'clock p.m. the same day.

POLLING-PLACES FOR THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF THE HAWKESBURY.
 Windsor, at the Court-house.
 Richmond, at the School of Arts.
 Enfield, near the Post-office.
 Kurnajong, at Wangaratta Creek, Post-office.
 North Colo. Post-office.
 Windsor Road, Rommery's.
 Windsor Road, Turner's.
 Elits Town, Post-office.
 Wiseman's Ferry, near Black's Inn.
 St. Alban's, the Court-house.
 Wilberforce, near the Watch-house.
 North of Colo, Henry Eveningham's.
 Heyes's Valley, Post-office.
JAMES B. JOHNSTON, Returning-Officer for Electoral District of the Hawkesbury.

Windsor, March 26th, 1877.

LECTURES.

PASTOR D. ALLEN'S LECTURE upon the Scripture Lesson Books as a compromise with Rome will (n.v.) be delivered in the large Temperance Hall, on **THURSDAY NIGHT**, the 5th, at 8 o'clock.

W. J. FOSTER, Esq., will preside.

A collection will be taken for the expenses.

BUSINESS CARDS.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH, INIMITABLE and Painless Dentistry.—**MR. GUSTAVUS GABRIEL** consults daily **ONLY** at 20, Wymard-square. Established in the

BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT.—TURNER and HENDERSON, Embossers, Diecinkers, Engravers, and Printers, 16 and 18, Turner-street.

CLAIRVOYANT MEDICAL BUSINESS.—Madams von HALLÉ (Clara Annika), 320, George-street.

CEMETERY Stone works.—Monuments, Headstones and Railings. J. Cunningham, Margaret-street.

CORNS, Bunions, and Defective Nails, cured, by Mr. Alexander, Surgeon-Chiropodist, 410, George-st.

CHARLES O'REILLY, Custom House Agent for A. S. N. C's bonded warehouse, forwarding

E. WAY, Importer of Drapery and Millinery, Manufacturer of Ladies' and Children's Underclothing and Baby Linen, Outfits for home, wedding Outfits, Family Mourning, 261 to 267, Pitt-street.

ESTABLISHED 1842—DR. EMANUEL and SON. Dentists (diploma 1836). Dental operations carefully performed. Artificial teeth, first-class work only. Gold employed, 20-carat. 178, Pitt-street, op. Punch's Hotel.

LAPRAIK and CO., Veterinary Fops, Hay and Corn Dealers, near the Castlemaine Brewery, Haymarket, Sydney. Corns, contracted heels, and all diseases of the feet skillfully and effectually treated. No extra charge.

R. J. LUGG, Dentist, 35, Bligh-street, one door
from Hunter-street.

COOY, BROTHERS—Boots and Shoes of every
description, 593 and 581, George-st., Brickfield-hill.

MR. WALTER J. MARSHALL, Surgeon, 107,
William-street—Hours, 10 to 2.

ADAME RAYNER HERRIDGE, Clairvoyant,
30, Burton-st., off S. H. Road, Woolloomooloo.

R. J. SPENCER, Dentist, 35, Wynyard-square,
awarded the N. S. W. Exhibition Medal and the
Queensland Exhibition Medal for 1876, being the seventh
year since he has been successful in such an
international competition. Also, THE LONDON
EXHIBITION MEDAL for 1874.

Painless extraction by aid of NITROUS-OXIDE GAS.
 PHRENOLOGY.—Professor HAMILTON'S Consulting-
 Rooms, 27, Hunter-st., one door from Pitt-street.
 T. LEIGH AND CO.,
 Engravers, Lithographers, and
 ACCOUNT BOOK MANUFACTURERS,
 Pitt-street (next Herald Office), Sydney.
 THE Australian and Italian Marble Slate and Stone
 Works, 312, 344, and 348, Pitt-street.
 THOMAS B. WALKER
 Exchange-corner, Bridge-street,
 ACCOUNTANT, INVESTIGATES and AVERAGES
 ACCOUNTS, BOOKS, &c.
 HANKARD'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, London.

street West, Melbourne. Established 24 years.
Tight porter, baths, &c.
ANNIE TANKARD, Proprietress.

TEEETH. TEEETH. TEEETH.
New Discovery. Toothache cured in a moment.
Mr. GEORGE.
Surgeon Dentist, 17, Hunter-street, Sydney.
Artificial teeth supplied, from a single tooth to full set.
Charges moderate. Teeth extracted without pain. Do-
maged teeth filled, which will last many years.
Advice gratis.

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work for the trade. 168, Pitt-street.

BUILDING MATERIALS.
VARNISHES. VARNISHES.
Victoria Varnish Company's celebrated VARNISHES,
made specially to suit this climate, equal, if not superior,
to any known brands, and at considerably lower prices.
ALEXANDER BORTHWICK,
286, George-street, Sydney;
and at 36, Market-street, Melbourne.
GOODLET and SMITH, Timber and Galvanised Iron
Merchants, 483, George-street, near Bathurst-
7, Parramatta-street, near Railway Bridge.
Pottery and Brickworks, Riley-street, Surry Hills.
Patent Brickworks, Botany Road, Waterloo.
Victoria Portland Cement Co., 10, Market-street.

N SALE, Galvanized Iron Pipe, 3 1/2 to 4 inch, with fittings. **JAMES A. BROWN,** Pitt-st. lead.

\$50,000 FEET Gutters, Pipe, Ridding, and reduced prices. **Brown,** on S. of Arts.

N SALE, 2 to 6 lb. **STEE LEAD,** cut to sizes. **J. A. BROWN,** 276, Pitt-st. lead.

PLAIN and corrugated **G. O. and Orb IRON,** 4 to 11 foot, reduced prices. **BROWN,** on School of Arts.

MONUMENTS, Tombs, Headstones, Kerling, &c **PATTEN, BROTHERS,** 318, Pitt-st. lead.

A U R I Squared logs and spars, especially second for decking, &c, up to 60 feet.

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HARDWOOD Flooring Boards, Joists, Scantling, &c.
Reduced prices. Street, Brothers, Sussex-street.

PINE, 6 x 1 T. and G. Boards, Scantling, Battens,
4-inch Lining; low rates. Street, Bros., Sussex-st.

REGION Spars, Deals, Flooring, &c., very superior;
low prices. STREET, BROTHERS, Sussex-st.

CEMENT.—Knight, Bevan, and Sturgo's
GALVANIZED IRON, 5 to 9 feet, Phillips and
Hill, and Gospel Oak

WINDOW GLASS, WIRE NAILS, SHEET ZINC,
all sizes. MONTEFIORE, JOSEPH, and CO.,
4 O'Connell-street.

BRITISH PAPE and STICKS. W.

200,000 FEET Kauri PINE, the best over imported into Sydney, for sale, in lots to suit purchasers, consisting of 6 x 1 T. and 6 x 4 T. and G. and B.; 8 to 18 x 12 x 3 to 18 x 3, &c. Long lead and ship planking. Apply to **F. NASON, Patent Ship Wharf.**

PLATES, Cement, Plaster, Sheet Lead and Pipe, Zinc Galvanized iron (all lengths), Register Grates, Marble Chimneypieces, Ridging, and Gutters, Pottery, &c. See **G. E. CRANE and SON, 21 and 23, Circular Quay.**

FOR SALE, prime Cedar Logs, Birch Wood, &c.

G. FLETCHER AND SON (late Fletcher, Brothers),
Gunfounders, Waverley. Depot, Oxford-street, corner
Farring-street.

C. Edwards na b c Rangaitia, 3 years
W. J. Dangar's ch f Signora, 3 years.
BREEDERS' PLATE.
Sir H. Robinson's blk f Habena
— b c Vicecount
Hon. E. K. Cox's br c Chester
Mr. B. Knight's b c Incessant
A. Loder's br c Hamilo, by The Pitford-Summerlee
— br c The Dean
— blk c Black Eagle

J. Lomax's b f Princess Vattendon
G. F. Want's b f Affection
A. Bowman's b f Ethel
J. S. Smith's b f Exposition
Charles Edwards m c o Royalty, by Tim Whittier—Young
Ludla
W. J. Dangar's b c Cauton
C. B. Flaher's c o Rawdon, by The Marquis—Egalite
b c, by The Marquis—Nathallo
c c, by Fireworks—Chryseleto

Mr. A. Bowman's ch h Sunlight, aged	...	...	...	...	at 16
G. Hill, jun's b h Malta, 4 years	...	...	...	...	...
K. T. Reid's b h Pride of the Hills, 3 years	...	...	...	...	...
Sir H. Robinson's b h Valenta, 4 years	...	...	...	...	...
M. J. Tait's b h Melbourne, 3 years	...	...	...	...	...
E. De Mott's h o by Angler—Chryselle, 3 years	...	...	...	...	...
R. Komes's b h India, 6 years	...	...	...	...	...
E. E. Jones's h o India, 6 years	...	...	...	...	...

Mr. H. Robinson's	ch g Janitor, 4 years	...	...	...	8	8
Mr. G. B. Fisher's	b b k Total, 3 years	...	...	...	7	12
Mr. G. B. Fisher's	b b k The Painter, 3 years	...	...	...	7	10
E. D. Meister's	b c c (Alabama, 5 years	...	...	...	6	9
Mr. H. Fisher's	b k b Trow-tridge, 4 years	...	...	...	7	6
Mr. H. Fisher's	b k b Green's Head, 3 years	...	...	...	7	3
Mr. G. Hill, Junr's	b g b Burwood, 6 years	...	...	...	7	3
W. S. Hill's	ch g King's-her, aged	...	...	...	7	3
J. Lang's	b b Spark, 4 years	...	...	...	7	3
T. Ivory's	g b Wrangler, aged	...	...	...	7	8
A. Bagui's	b c Acornio, 3 years	...	...	...	7	8
A. Bagui's	b c Acornio, 3 years	...	...	...	7	2

J. Turner's m Miss Kingston, 3 years	...	6 8
J. Patterson's b g Meteor, 4 years	...	8 7
J. H. Turner's b g Furze n-Lady Mary, 3 years	...	6 4
J. Kite's b b Dookwater, 4 years	...	6 4
H. Collins's b f Valetta, 3 years	...	6 4
W. P. Bowles's b g Corentyn, agrid	...	6 2
J. Kite's b g Wood-stone, 4 years	...	0 8
W. Archer's ro g by Gemma d Verry-Princes, 5 years	...	6 0
Hon. J. White's b g Emerald, 3 years	...	5 10
Mr. T. Ivory's Fernhill, 3 years	...	6 7
A. Stuyll's b b Niagara	...	6 7

J. Patterson's br b Hervech, 3 years, 5 7
 TWO SELLING PLATE; 1 1/2 MILE.
 Mr. F. Fincent's b g Partisan, 6 years
 A. Town's b c Paradis, 3 years, 2100
 T. Moonor's bl g Baltimore (late Sovereign), 5 years, £100
 J. C. Markwell's b c The Judge, 3 years, 275
 S. W. Knight's b g Telegraph, 6 years
 J. S. Smith's bl f Kitty, 3 years, £100
 A. Town's b g Liberty, 6 years, £25
 B. Haughey's b f Linda, 3 years, 250
 A. Bawman's b g Robin Hood, aged

M. Thompson's blk r Cyclone, aged, £50
 — h f May, 2 years
 C. J. Roberts's br c Baron, 4 years, £50
 — ch c Flos, 2 years
 H. Hay's br m Mrs Livingstone, 4 years, £50
 John Varrach's c the Earl, 4 years
 J. Ross's b Echo, 5 years, £50
 W. C. Freeman's br b Laxite, 4 years, £50
 Sir H. Robinson's br c Blethington, 3 years, 57
 Mr J. S. Hughes's blk r The King, aged, £50
 R. Richards's b Swift, 3 years, 50

J. Murphy's b h Ajax, 4 years, £50
W. F. Bowser's br g Coventry, aged, £50
W. Archer's ch g Harwood, aged, £50
Melbourne Entry. Devon.

THE WAYERLEY STAKES; 1½ MILE.

Mr. S. W. Knight's ch c by Mail Train—Dolena, 3 years
Mr. A. Bowman's s f May, 4 years
 b f Ethel, 2 years
J. Tait's br c by the Barb—Marourneen, 2 years
R. Rouse's ch f Alma, 3 years
 ch f Colima, 2 years

"Jag. Osborne's" etc by The Drummer—Romping Girl, 2 years
W. F. Collier's br f Violetta
H. Herbert's br f Merrythings—The Fawn, 2 years
Mr. E. De Mestre's br c Cuck-a-lie, 2 years
Hon. James White's blc Tarquin, 1 year
 —br f Formosa, 2 years
Mr. J. S. Smith's b f Expectation, 2 years
W. Dargin's blc c Cloth of Gold (late Hlawatha), 2 years
W. Kitch's br c Woolstone, 4 years
A. Bessie's bd Jack of Trumps, 2 years
C. Robert's

Sir R. Robinson's b c Lorton, 2 years
 Mr. J. Leman's b r Princess Vattendon, 2 years
 George Hill, Jun.'s b c The Rake (late The Thorn), 2 years
 A. Leder's br m Lady Superior, 4 years.
 Melbourne Entries.—Herschel, Waterford, and Dignity.

(From the Cooktown Herald, March 22.)

Is anticipation of the arrival of the R. M. S. Brisbane, with his Excellency Sir Arthur Kennedy on board, Cooktown was astir at an early hour yesterday morning, prepared on his Excellency's arrival to give him a right royal reception. The weather seemed on this occasion to be on its best behaviour, as the morning opened splendidly. About 8 o'clock the flag was run up at the signal station, which announced the arrival of a steamer from Sydney.

Immediately this news became known there was a general stir and excitement amongst both our European and Asiatic population. The ballman was sent round to announce the postponement of the election of aldermen, which was to have taken place yesterday, till Tuesday, the 27th instant. A number of people connected to file down to the wharf, where a triumphal arch, decorated with evergreens, and bearing the word "Welcome," had been erected by direction of the reception committee.

unmistakable. These enter gentlemen, having already made most of the preliminary arrangements for decorating the streets, set to work in earnest to complete the task: in hand and, in the course of a very short time, with the aid of bunting and evergreens, succeeded in effecting a complete transformation in the appearance of Wobler Esplanade and Charlotte-street. The shops, which had just been opened, put up their shutters, and everything wore a holiday air. As soon as the Brisbane came to anchor, the agent, the health-officer (Dr. Kortum), and one or two other citizens

went off. During their absence the crowd on Webber Esplanade, in the vicinity of the landing place, was being continuously augmented, the number of Celestials in their flowing and many-coloured robes being dominant, numerous lookies gracing the scene with their presence, while young Cooktown mustered very strong. Before the return of the health-officer not less than 1000 people must have been present on Webber Esplanade. The report from two guns discharged at the landing place was understood as the signal that Sir Arthur had left the Brig.

bane for the shore, and the master was still further increased by a general roll-up of the more dilatory or stoical of our population. Thus far all had been cheerfulness and good humour, every one seeming to be in a mood to make the most of the day's enjoyment, no one doubting for a moment that the imposing pageant projected by the Mayor and aldermen would be carried out in its integrity. Everything was prepared, everyone ready to do his duty on the occasion; The boat with the health-officer was observed to have left

the Brisbane on its return, and when it did return, also for the best laid plans of mice and men which oft gang-les, it was learned that that terrible scourge, small-pox, had broken out during the voyage, and that the ship had consequently been placed in quarantine. There was a sense of general disappointment felt, and many worthy people seemed to think the quarantine laws ought not to apply to the sacred person of a Governor. Notwithstanding the untoward turn events had taken, it was resolved to carry out the day's programme as fully as circumstances

would permit. In pursuance of this determination the Chinese, who were certainly to those on shore the attraction of the day, were the first to put in an appearance in organised form. They marched from Chinatown preceded by a standard-bearer carrying a handsome magenta-coloured flag, bordered with white and of triangular shape, across which the word "Wel, come" was displayed, and which was surmounted with a red pennant. Immediately behind the standard-bearer

marionettes, two ladies carrying a white, gaudy, piquant, decorated with flowers, and to which were either affixed or suspended symbols and other musical-instruments. This was in fact a sort of portable orchestra; there were other musical instruments carried by the performers, one of which, from its tone, seemed to be a cross between a cat-call and a bagpipes; behind marched a number of Celestials, amongst whom were some of our principal Chinese merchants, dressed in white or blue. As this imposing pageant passed down Charlotte-street with all the pomp and glories

circumstances or gaudy banners and crashing music, it presented quite an imposing sight, and completely took the shine out of the "white devils," who lined the side walk and looked on wondrously. Proceeding to the temporary landing stage about 100 of their number embarked in two cutters and several small boats, proceeded out and performed the circumnavigation of the Brisbane amidst a most tremendous display made by the combined aid of crackers and music. Later on, the acting Mayor, aldermen, and acting town clerk

attended to present the address published in our last issue, which was adopted by the Municipal Council. It was read from a small boat, and presented to His Excellency. On receiving the address, Sir Arthur thanked the Mayor and aldermen, and said he regretted the state of the law that prevented him coming on shore as he wished to do; but he assured the Mayor and aldermen that one of his first visits after he reached Brisbane would be paid to their municipality, as he considered Cooktown one of the most important places in the colony.

DR. SPENCER.—We have much pleasure in drawing attention to Dr. Spencer's sale of elegant household furniture, carriages, sparkling glass, china, plate, valuable pictures and bronzes, choice works in the Ceramic art, and exquisite Porcelain statuary, the whole forming, we believe, one of the finest collections of articles of vertu not to be surpassed in any gentleman's establishment in the colony. This important sale has been entrusted to Brindley, Norton, and Lamb, and will be carried out by them at Dr. Spencer's private residence, No. 197, Lyons-

ternance, Hyde Park, to-morrow, Thursday, 5th April, at 11 a.m. Many of the articles are not only pre-eminently adapted for household decoration, but are equally suitable for contributing prizes to the various exhibitions of the kind, and for the collection of the Japanese and Chinese objects so worthily represented: and it may not be out of place to mention that a valuable selection of the *Sovres chins* and bronzes which formed so prominent a part at the first French Exhibition were secured by Dr. Spencer for a large sum. The magnificent mail phaeton, hooded concord buggy, and silver-mounted harness, deserves special attention at the hands of the artist and the collector.

genre, and our order the same. The sale will be passed under the hammer at 2 p.m. prompt. The sale is unusually attractive and important, and should bring together a large concourse of buyers. Catalogues may be obtained at the rooms of the auctioneers. —ADV.

www.nla.news-page14

OUR LONDON LETTER.

FEBRUARY 2.

THROUGH the mail does not leave for a week, I wish to record, while it is still fresh in my mind, an event of great importance in the colonial world here, and one worthy to interest most of your readers. A paper of marked ability and power of thought was read on the 23rd of last month by your Agent-General on "Fallacies of Federation." The chairman, Sir Charles Nicholson, termed it a "State paper," and it may be expected to serve for years to come as a manual on the subject. The Young's book is accepted as a manual on the other. It was, indeed, a little unfortunate that Mr. Forster should seem to be ranged on this matter in opposition to Sir Hercules Robinson, but the former made us last night a "personal explanation," which will, I am sure, be accepted in the same frank and manly spirit in which it was made. This paper had been promised to the Royal Colonial Institute, and was ready for the Press before the report of the Albany speech arrived. It was then too late to withdraw, and to do so might have been misunderstood; so that, while regretting to have to appear at variance with the Governor of his colony, he was compelled to reason out his case and meet the arguments advanced by the Federationists. I am not defending every expression he used in reference to the speech of Sir Hercules; but his Excellency will be the first to admit that those who oppose federation have the interests of the colonies at heart, and are not without reasons for their contention.

All depends on the sense we attach to federation. Some of the speakers in the adjourned discussion last night mixed up in hopeless confusion colonial and Imperial federation; and one of them in particular (Mr. Glazebrook) declined with grandiloquence on what had been the dream of his heart for years. Mr. Forster, in reply, complimented him on his eloquence (he is chiefly celebrated for Penny Reading achievements), but demolished his transcendental views with a single blow, explaining that while arguing against colonial federation he was a hearty friend of Imperial federation, and objected to the former because he feared it would hinder the latter consummation. This was drawn out by Mr. Labelliere, who, speaking as a born Victorian, said that this difference must be kept in mind, that intercolonial federation would make larger demands on the several colonies in the way of conceding their rights, whereas Imperial federation would make no such demands. Mr. Forster found his strongest ally in Mr. Strangways, who, in an incisive speech, took up the various points on which it was commonly asserted that colonial federation would be an advantage, with a view to showing that they could gain every advantage just as well without it. There were the railways: was it not far more important to push the people up into the interior by laying down a number of cheap lines than by making a broad-gauge line between the capital cities? His own experience was that when bills came to be paid the cost of railways was about as the squares of the gauges. As to the land tax, he had heard the old cry in South Australia that that would be a panacea for all ills, but when he came to try it, there was not a landholder in the whole colony who was not up in arms against it. Immigration was the third point, and he firmly maintained that it paid South Australia well to bring out shiploads from England, even though many transhipped themselves at Adelaide for Melbourne. He believed federation would be equally as well as regarded Customs, for attempts at uniform tariffs had been tried and had failed; while, as to defence, each colony would have to pay about the same as it paid now. The point Mr. Donistoun Wood had referred to, of light-houses, did not bear examination; for you must distinguish between ocean and harbour lights, and you would have endless disputes as to the proportion in which the colonies should pay for the maintenance of the former, the result probably being that each would pay within a few hundreds of what it pays now. This kind of colonial federation would, he believed, pave the way for separation from the mother country. In fact that very fear had led to the stalling out of clauses twenty-five years ago by the Home Government, which empowered the colonies to federate if they desired. This last assertion was corroborated by Mr. Youle, who presided at the adjourned debate. He well remembered the desire that had once existed in the colonies for federation, and how Downing-street took alarm at the idea of federated defences, fearing the consequences, which it would lead.

It was amusing to observe the parallel drawn by the different speakers according to the views they held. Mr. Young asked whether it was not as absurd to have different laws on the two banks of the Murray as in the banks of the Thames; or the two banks of the Thames; while Mr. Forster retorted that nobody had shown any reason why France and England should be joined in a federation simply because it was desirable to have a tunnel between them. They could have a tunnel without federation. The one speaker appeared to me as a side of the mark as the other. The Australian colonies are neither so near together as Westminster and Southwark, or so far apart as France and England. Mr. Forster, who was very strong on the wantlessness of transcendental as compared with practical views, insinuating the colonies, urged again, what he had done in his paper, the certainty that Victoria would not come into any federation if the prospect were the abolition of protection. As to the Home Government coercing the colonies into federation, Sir Julius Vogel is as completely wrong in supposing that the feared action on its part. He agreed with me that who had gone before that the initiative must be taken by the colonies themselves; all he deprecated was, Home interference, like the influence a father could bring to bear on his daughter, even though he could not compel her to marry against her will. It was generally felt that Mr. Forster's allusion to New Zealand was a weak point in his paper, and that he really wished to advance the cause of Imperial federation by criticising its less useful and less feasible form. Mr. Michie, to whose paper in *Freder's* frequent allusion was made, was not present, but most of the other notables were at the discussion, which was followed, on the 18th inst., by one on the colonies and the working classes, introduced by a paper by Mr. Plummer, a working man himself.

The St. Oyst has just arrived from Melbourne, after the fastest double passage on record—four months and five days out and one again—calling at Melbourne both ways.

discharging a general cargo in Australia, and loading wool for England. The Whampoa, of the same line, is expected daily from Sydney.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Parliament has been opened with due solemnity by her Majesty in person, with the advantage of true "Queen's weather" and a prodigious crowd of plebeians and patriots. The royal speech—ironically called "Benjamin's mess," which was greater than the mess of all his brethren—was read by the Lord Chancellor and eagerly discussed for the next twenty-four hours all over Europe. The Government themselves expressed regret that no allusion was made to the terrible flood which swept away, as in a moment, a quarter of a million of our Indian fellow-subjects, surpassing the earthquake of Lisbon and all similar catastrophes. But they had no reason to apologise for giving the go-by to the Eastern question. That everlasting bore of a question occupied fully half the speech; only the history of it in the past was discussed without any firm declaration of policy for the future. Probably the terms of the speech were fixed before Lord Salisbury's return. To judge from the speeches in Parliament, we are likely to have very little but this question for weeks to come. Lord Beaconsfield shows any amount of readiness to wrestle with Lord Granville in the Upper House; and according to *Punch's* unflattering representation, he has given full lessons to Sir Stafford Northcote how to drive the four steeds Bankum, Banter, Mystery, and Management. On the other hand, Mr. Gladstone and the Marquis of Hartington appear with a courage of scorpions in their hands; so that the fray is likely to be hot; and in the midst of it bills about prisons, and universities, and bankruptcy, and patents stand a good chance of going to the wall. The sudden fall and bankruptcy of Midhat Pasha is but another sign of the incurable rottenness of the Turkish Empire, and even now the Sultan is said to repeat him of the evil he has wrought, and to be preparing a capsize for Midhat's successor.

Mr. Toth has found his way into Horse-monger-lane goal, to the applause of the law-abiding, and the indignation of the Ritualists. Finding that he could not be sent to Maidstone goal, a more agreeable place of confinement, he came up to visit a friend in the vicinity of Horse-monger-lane, and there the Sheriff found him. Truly it was hard that he could not be put into a superior cell, but must cook his own food and scour his own room; but what an opportunity was thus afforded for the Christian virtue of self-sacrifice, and how much more of a martyr these tribulations caused him to appear! He did not exactly play the part of Paul and Silas, singing psalms to the other prisoners by night; but a body of surprised clergy came and serenaded him night after night, singing outside the prison walls to console his dejected spirit. And he has found employment while in prison in sending heroic replies to letters of sympathy from his parishioners. How he is to come out, unless he makes due apology, and promises not to offend again, should be to him matter of reflection. He will soon be forgotten by the public as completely as Arthur Orton; and the law has no pity. Meantime, the Hatcham rebellion is bearing strange fruit. I met, a few days ago, the secretary of that eminent branch of the Church militant, the Liberation Society. Not a day, he said, passed now but some "anxious inquirer," not in Mr. Angell's sense, but in the shape of high-church clergyman, came to him asking counsel and "relief from bondage." He called them his Nicodemuses, and had no doubt would succeed from the Church of England if they could see any prospect of a living or a livelihood outside its pale.

To turn from the spiritual to things carnal. Meat supply is the great home question of the day. Householders are groaning under the pressure of butchers' meat at 13d. or 15d., all yearning for help. They look to Australia, but Australia does not satisfy their requirements. Says the *Spectator*, for example:—"The head of the house always shuddered at the sight of it, and the servants and the children's self-sacrificing perseverance at luncheon time made too little difference in the bills." The result is that countries nearer at hand are being canvassed for supply. America now sends large quantities of fresh meat, though it has not fully won its way into the market. In Manchester the butchers had recourse to a truly American plan for defeating the American beef. They bought a number of the oldest and toughest and stringiest "cows," killed them, and labelled them "Prime American Beef, just imported." A single trial on the part of the purchaser was enough. He vowed an infuriated oath that he would never touch that Yankee meat again, no matter how cheap it was, and that he would never rebel again against English charges. Mr. Tallerman, however, has adopted an idea that is likely to checkmate the butchers. He has leased the whole vaulted space beneath the Cannon-street station, and is about to fit it for the reception of carcasses fresh from America, Austria, Spain, and other countries. By means of refrig. rators he will keep the cold by which they were preserved on the way, until the moment when the joints are wanted for consumption; and passing entirely by the butchers, he proposes to supply the public direct at a cost for the best fresh meat of from 7d. to 9d. per lb. The scheme is regarded with great favour, and is at any rate worth a good trial.

Co-operative supply is the order of the day. Residents in the suburbs dispose with local tradesmen, and have their stores of groceries from the Civil service and other stores. You see gentlemen carrying home neat little cubical parcels of British butter or elegant baskets of fish, or may be a leg of mutton from one of Spiera and Pond's stalls; and at some of these stores you can buy almost as wide a variety of things as you can from the Cambridge grocer, who was once asked in fun whether he had a second-hand pulpit on sale, and immediately produced the very article demanded.

Do your readers know Whiteley? Because, in view of a possible visit to England, a knowledge of this universal genius is indispensable. All the Americans go straight to him for all they want; and I happen to know the eagerness of American cousins to rig themselves out in London at a third the cost of clothes in New York. The West of London all goes to him; the carriages of his customers line whole streets; his patrons crowd the stations; he has some fifteen shops opening out of one another; his employees number 2000; he has a cricket club, a polo club, and a club pure and simple for them. You may go there for anything you can possibly want, down to a coffin; for there is a distinct funeral department which

will bury you with perfect taste and at the least trouble to yourself and your relations. When first I heard of the performances of Whiteley, I said, "Can he find me a wife?"—not that I was in immediate need of that article, but that I thought I had found the bottom of Whiteley's magic trunk at last. "Yes, indeed," said my informant, "a major in the army once went seriously to him and said, 'Now, Mr. Whiteley, cannot you help me to a wife?' 'I think I can,' was the reply, 'if you will come and take tea with me this evening.'" He came, and met at Whiteley's table a young lady, the daughter of a clergyman, who had come for employment, but had been found too good for the ordinary work of the shops. They entered into conversation, the major and the lady fell in love with one another at first sight, and shortly afterwards were married. "One visitor to this huge establishment wrote as follows:—'I know of nothing like this in the world. Imagine, for instance, a successful gold-miner coming back to England, with a plentiful fortune but with nothing else. He arrives in London tired, worn, and without a home. All he has to do is to go to Whiteley. He can take a bath, have his hair cut, and be rigged out in fashionable garments to begin with. Then, without leaving the place, he can, in a few hours, be set up with his family, if he has one, in a handsomely furnished house, with servants, equipage, and everything handy about him; and, to make him perfectly comfortable, Mr. Whiteley will take his money on a deposit account, give him a cheque-book, and pay him 5 per cent. interest besides. If he wishes to build a house, Mr. Whiteley will build it for him. If he rents one, and wishes it repaired, furnished, and decorated, Mr. Whiteley will do that also. There is a special export and shipping department, and an efficient staff of export packers, so that people purchasing for abroad are relieved of all trouble respecting the packing, clearing, and forwarding of their goods. If they wish to go abroad themselves, berths are engaged and cabins fitted. In fact, here one can order goods of any kind whatever, and to be sent anywhere, the whole being on a cash basis.'" Whiteley is a little unknown man, who, a few years ago, was in a very humble walk of life; he has added barn to barn and field to field, has no "Co." and now owns almost all Westbourne Grove.

"Lady helps" was the talk of the world some months ago; now it is "gentlemen helps," and plaintive offers are heard from gentlemen who would fain be co-chenes or gardeners, or, or swineherds, could they but fill their bellies with the hush of the swine eat. It is a tale, not unknown in the Australian bush, of Oxford and Cambridge men who are constrained to undertake menial employment, and whose gentle blood has done little to help it. If some would qualify themselves to act as elementary school teachers that might do for them, as the profession is fast rising in importance and pecuniary appreciation, seeing here all goes by certificate. Favouritism is the order in American schools, but not here in London—examination and open competition rule the day. The budget of the London School Board for the year ending spring 1878 is £206,000, a pretty round sum, yet one which the ratepayers cannot grumble at paying after the rebate they administered to the economists last November. After all, the whole sum the Board has spent is not more than the Board of Works has expended on the construction of Queen Victoria-street and the Thames embankment—and what a magnificent investment it is. The spelling reform question is being urged by a party on the Board. It is not proposed, so far as I can ascertain, to disturb the established appearance of the words, but to give special forms to each sound a given letter may possess—a, a, a, and so on. It would be a miserable thing to introduce phonetic writing and destroy the invaluable clue given by etymology to the meaning and history of words. But, if anything reasonable can be done to facilitate the process of learning to read, it will be a boon to thousands. In the Massachusetts schools, Leigh's method shortens the time by one-half; and there the superintendent, Mr. Philomel, pitifully stated that for twenty years he had not known a single child in Boston who had not learned to read and write.

The *Contemporary Review* has passed, with the *Day of Rest* and two magazines, into the hands of a limited company, headed by Mr. Samuel Morley and others. Its late editor is about to establish the *Nineteenth Century*, and publishes a very powerful list of intending contributors. I suppose the idea is that the new proprietors will narrow the platform of the *Contemporary*; there are no present signs of it. Miss F. Power Cobbe, Mr. Freeman and other writers are not of the strictest sect of the Pharisees.

Commander Cameron's "Across Africa," and Mr. Morris's "Epic of the Volungas and the Fall of the Niblungs," are "in the mouths of men."

CHEDE.

OUR BERLIN LETTER.

FEBRUARY 11.

"Dirpizitit est satirum non scribere." This Oriental question, serious as it is, has now entered a phase that often seems ridiculous. "Midhat Pasha has fallen." "Edhem Pasha is Grand Vizier." "Midhat has embarked for an island in the Archipelago." "Constantinople is as yet quiet." Such is the news telegraphed some days ago from the Turkish capital. The man of the future, the founder of the Ottoman Constitution, the soul of the resistance made to the demands of the Plenipotentiaries, the hope of the Empire in its possible conflict with the power of Russia, has been removed from the capital and his position as suddenly as the most obscure and servile flatterer who ever gained the favour of a Sultan. All Europe was astonished at this news. Diplomacy was not prepared for this, and the whole Oriental question had thereby received a new and very uncertain face for the future. Events in the Orient are following each other so rapidly that we are scarcely able to follow them. Facts which one or two weeks ago seemed most important have shrunk together into insignificance and are completely outlived. I must, however, give you a resume of the events of last month.

The members of the Conference might have felt, from the beginning that their endeavours to make the Porte give in would be in vain. Then the Plenipotentiaries began to give in, but the more they did so the more the Turkish statesmen became obstinate, and the great programme of reforms which the Powers had composed fell together, and only two, and even two very important points only remained of it. The Porte even refused these two last demands of the Conference.

The Grand Council of the Porte was duly summoned on Thursday, the 18th January, and Safvet Pasha laid before the members the propositions of the Powers in a most able speech, in which he frankly avowed that in case of refusal Turkey would be left alone to combat Russia, the Slavs, and the disaffected provinces. On the other hand, however, if her proposals were accepted, Turkey must consider her independence sacrificed. Mehmet Ruedhi, the Ex-Grand Vizier, followed in the same strain, comparing the nation's independence to her soul; then the Armenian Patriarch rose, and made a most powerful speech in favour of the rejection of the proposals; the Greek and Jewish representatives were of the same mind, and the only dissentient voice was that of the chief of the Protestant community. The proposals were then unanimously rejected, amid loud shouts of "Death before dishonour," although it is somewhat significant that Hamid Bey, the Khedive's son-in-law, left without signing the protocol. On Saturday, 20th, the last sitting of the Conference was held, and Safvet Pasha announced the decision of the Grand Council, and stated that the Porte would make a counter proposal respecting the International Commission, namely, that an elective commission should be formed, presided over by a Turkish functionary. The point respecting the approval by the Powers of the Governor to be appointed to the provinces was ignored. Upon this Lord Salisbury declared that as the Conference had assembled for the express purpose of securing administrative autonomy in the Christian provinces, and of providing against misadministration, and that, as the Porte had refused the two measures suggested for those ends by the Powers, there was no alternative but the dissolution of the Conference. General Ignatieff next spoke much to the same effect, only laying great stress upon the responsibility of the Porte, in thus declining the advice of the Powers, and warning the Turkish Government that, if the Turks should break the armistice, or should ill-treat their Christian subjects, Europe would consider such conduct as a provocation, and regard what steps should be taken. He also remarked that the Conference had received petitions from the Christians of Macedonia, Thessaly, Epirus, and Crete, asking that the members should also consider how their condition might be improved. The Conference was then dissolved, and the various delegates and ambassadors of the six signatory Powers left Constantinople, and all diplomatic business was entrusted to the care of their "Chargé d'Affaires." It is difficult to understand what benefit is to be gained by this demonstration. If there were the smallest chance of the Powers bringing direct pressure to bear upon the Porte, the withdrawal of the ambassadors would serve a useful purpose. But the Sultan and his Ministers know perfectly well that they have no such danger to dread. No two States look upon the Eastern question from precisely the same point of view, and the ultimate interests of Russia are wholly opposed to those of England and Austria. Common action, therefore, in any measure of real importance is impossible; and it is because this fact is so clear that the Turks have watched with a light heart the departure of their counsellors. The inability of the Powers to act in concert being quite certain, the question of the hour is, will Russia take the matter in her own hands and stand forth, nominally, as the champion of Christianity? A few months ago no one could have doubted that such a crisis as that which now exists also would instantly draw the sword. The hands of the Czar at Moscow were decisive, and the order for the mobilisation of the troops, which immediately followed, showed how thoroughly he was earnest. It would be premature to assert, even now, that he will retire from the position so ostentatiously taken up. Here at least is a very general belief that he will fight, and that he merely waits for the approach of spring to put his armies in motion.

In the meantime, Prince Gortschakoff has sent a circular note to the Ambassadors of Russia at Berlin, Vienna, Paris, London, and Rome, dated St. Petersburg, January 31, the text being French, the translation of which follows:—"The refusal of the Porte to accede to the wishes of Europe has made the Eastern crisis enter upon a new phase. The Imperial Cabinet has regarded it from the beginning as a European question, which should and could only be solved by the unanimous accord of the Great Powers. The difficulty was thus reduced to bringing the Turkish Government to rule the Christian subjects of the Sultan in conformity with the principles of justice and humanity, and to order such reforms as would be necessary to bring about a general European accord, in order to ally the crisis, and prevent its recurrence. It came to an understanding with the Austro-Hungarian Government, the most immediately interested, in order to submit to the European Cabinets proposals which might serve as the basis of a general understanding and of common action. The agreement not having been unanimous, and diplomatic action having thus been interrupted, the Cabinets agreed just in consequence of the aggravation of the crisis, caused by the measures in Bulgaria, the revolution in Constantinople, and the war with Serbia and Montenegro. On the 11th, five of the European Governments, the Cabinets agreed upon the basis and the guarantees of pacification to be discussed at the Conference at Constantinople. This Conference, in its preliminary deliberations, arrived at a complete understanding, both respecting the conditions of peace and the reforms which the Great Powers attach to the pacification of the East, and the right which they possess of insuring it in the general interest, and their firm desire to obtain it by means of the most equitable and just arrangements. The Cabinets again find themselves in the same position as in the beginning of this crisis, which is, however, still further aggravated by the fact that the Sultan has been seized by the passions that have been unduly excited, the ruin accumulated, and the prospect of an indefinite prolongation of the deplorable state of things which weighs upon Europe, and justly preoccupies public opinion and the Governments. The Porte pays no regard to its former engagements, to its duties as a member of the European concert, or to the unanimous wishes of the Great Powers. Far from having made a step towards a satisfactory solution, the state of the East has become worse, and remains a permanent menace for the peace of Europe, the sentiments of humanity, and the conscience of the Christian nation. To these Sultanate attacks to the pacification of the East, it is suitable for him to follow, His Majesty the Emperor wishes to know what course will be decided upon by the Cabinets with reference to the present time, and to the future, and to insure the execution of their wishes. You are requested to inquire on this point, and to read and report to your respective Governments the result of your efforts.—ROSCOV, St. Petersburg, 20th January 1877."

This Russian circular is a diplomatic document of great ability; it is in harmony with, and is in fact a continuation of, the policy pursued by General Ignatieff during the Conference. The Russian Government is determined that, if possible, Russia shall not be put in the wrong. The co-operation of the other Powers has been zealously maintained, and will be maintained until the last; so that the Great Powers shall find it difficult to condemn the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, if the Czar is ultimately found undertaking to

execute the wishes and enforce the demands upon which all the Powers have agreed.

The note, whatever may be its consequences later, has for the moment been thrown in the background by the fall of Midhat. In spite of the decided ascendancy which he had gained in the councils of his Sovereign, and which he had been able to maintain in the most critical moments, Midhat Pasha's position was far from being a secure one. It was an incessant struggle for life against the numerous adverse influences and personal enemies, both domestic and foreign. Every step which he took in carrying out his policy could only be gained by a new and successful struggle. There was nothing to indicate that his fall might be so close at hand. Midhat was an energetic and adventurous politician, full of confidence in his own abilities and not always careful to conceal his disrespect for the opinions of others. He had a policy of his own during the last twelve months. He would defy Russia to the point of staking the very existence of the Empire on a campaign in Bulgaria, and he would take the authority of this state from the Sultan and vest it in councils or in assemblies of uncertain disposition. The man who planned the dethronement of Abdul Aziz, who incited the Sofoktas, who secured the troops, the fleet, and even the people of the palace, can never be an agreeable personage to a Sultan. The storms of laudation with which his advent to power and his frustration of the Conference had been received, was very likely to increase his favour at the palace. Last of all, the foreign diplomacy has to be counted amongst the influences hostile to Midhat. The real history of the intrigue which has overthrown him will, perhaps, never be completely and thoroughly known. It is naturally suspected that as Midhat Pasha threw down the gauntlet to Russia and broke up the Conference, the Russian Government may have had its share in many machinations which have been going forward. People ask themselves, "Who will profit by Midhat's fall?" and they will agree that Russia will do so. On this point it is sufficient to say that the fact that Russia has an immense army on the Pruth, and sends forth such a circular as the one now presented to Europe, may produce a powerful effect in the Turkish official world. In this sense it is indeed pretty certain that the Russian Government has had its share in the catastrophe. The consequences also can hardly fail to be important.

The opening of the British Parliament has been long expected, as it was to clear up the true position, to open the various prospects, to prove the strength of parties, and to justify the Ministers and confound their opponents. The first results are not quite of a decisive character; there has been no daring attack, no heroic and victorious defence, no sudden revelation transforming the whole scene with dramatic effect. The two parties have opposed each other with becoming distinctness, but there is enough of cautious moderation on either side to make one suspect that the period of modifications and compromises in policy has not passed away.

The House of Commons will not endure for another session the reticence and mystery of the last, or acquiesce submissively in the demand that the Government shall be implicitly trusted. The success of the English Government has been too dubious; the inconsistency of its actions has been too patent for the former behaviour of Ministers to be tolerated. The situation of the East is so grave, and it is so evident that the English Government has no plan for averting the threatened danger, that Parliament will probably demand to be taken into council on the policy to be pursued, and require that the Ministry shall act with unswerving in the future.

Within the last few weeks the comparative calm in the relations of France and Germany has been seriously disturbed. The Press of the two countries has been indulging in somewhat violent language, each ascribing to the other the most dangerous motives. An article in the *Kritik und Tageschronik*, attacking Teutonism, and warning Sweden and Denmark against Germany's lust of conquest, has called down a hailstorm of angry articles from the German Press, and amongst others, one in which the French are severely reproved for this fresh outbreak of hatred and envy. France has likewise accused Germany of playing a double part in the East, menacing at one time that she was doing her utmost to plunge Russia into war, at another, that she was intriguing with Russia against the Western Powers. The Germans have replied to these charges with warmth, calling attention to the rapid reorganization of the French army.

It is said that at the present moment there is a flutter of excitement in all the German barracks, and that many officers hope very soon to see "Nach Paris" (to Paris) once more written in prominent letters on railway carriages bearing troops to the Western frontier. Such expectations will, doubtless, be disappointed; but it would be foolish to close the eyes to the fact that these periodical manifestations of distrust are ominous of future disaster. It was hoped and expected by many people, after the peace of Frankfurt, that the hatred of the French towards their conquerors would gradually die away. This hope seems not likely to be realised, and though a war between Germany and France may not break out for some time, it is almost certain to come; and the fact has had a direct bearing on the progress of the negotiations relating to Turkey. It must, indeed, profoundly influence the determination of every question which affects the peace of Europe.

German commerce and industry begin to suffer more and more every day; thousands of labourers are dismissed from the great factories, and the State does not provide work for them in some other way. Coal and iron industries are getting lower, and it cannot be denied that Germany is walking towards a serious catastrophe if Government does not soon begin to introduce a new financial and commercial policy. Only the great factories of Krupp, in Essen, have still sufficient work; and this is very lucky as the establishment occupies a great number of people. This great and celebrated cast-steel manufactory was established in 1810, only with one blast-furnace. It has been conducted since the year 1820 by Mr. Alfred Krupp. The enormous scale on which the business is carried on will be understood when it is stated that at the present time 10,500 men are employed in the work, exclusive of some 6000 others in the mines and blast-furnaces which belong to the firm. The articles manufactured at Essen are guns, gun-carriages and projectiles, axes, tires, wheels and crossings for railways, rails and springs for railways, shafts for steamers, machinery, &c. There are now existing 250 smelting furnaces, 300 annealing furnaces, 101

heating furnaces, 115 welding and puddling furnaces, 33 cupola and reverberatory furnaces, 180 furnaces of other kinds, 275 coke ovens, 204 smith forges, and 208 steam boilers. There are 77 steam hammers, 18 rolling trains, 219 steam engines, representing altogether over 10,000 horse-power. During the year 1875, 612,000 tons of coal and coke were consumed. The works are in communication with three of the principal railways, and there are 31 telegraph stations on the ground. A permanent fire brigade, consisting of 63 men, with 8 fire-engines, has also been instituted. The officers and workmen inhabit 3277 dwellings, and there are 16,200 individuals living in these houses. In the dwellings of the mines and smelting works belonging to the firm there are additional 3200 individuals, and the existing boarding-houses give board and lodging to 2600 workmen. The arrangements for the accommodation of the sick consist of one general hospital, with 100 beds, and one epidemic hospital, with 120 beds, all under the supervision of physicians especially engaged for the purpose. There is also a bathing establishment, and a disinfecting house for the beds and clothes of the sick. The firm have under their control a supply system by which the workmen are provided with all the necessities of life at cost price. A sick, burial, and pension fund has been instituted for those who receive wages from the firm, the latter contributing half the amount of the contributions paid in by the members. There is also a society for life insurance. Lastly, the firm have organized an admirable scholastic system, four of the industrial schools for girls and women being entirely maintained by them. You can fancy what embarrassments and troubles must arise if establishments like this do not have sufficient outlets. The disturbances in the Orient have, of course, occasioned new orders to the firm of Krupp; particularly Russia also has ordered a great number of heavy guns for the arming of Kronstadt, at Krupp's establishment. Other factories in Silesia and on the Rhine are in want of orders, and it is here that real troubles may arise.

The Court and that part of society belonging to it is still in deep mourning for her Royal Highness the late Princess Charles. No balls or great state dinners have taken place, and even the great annual festival which unites all the great knights who have been created through the year, and all those persons who have been decorated, and which generally is finished by a grand state dinner, has passed off without the latter, the Emperor only receiving the knights, and after the presentation and great "Cour" the festival was over. The two eldest Princes, sons of the Crown Prince, Prince William and Prince Henry, have both left the school at Cassel, where they have been educated. Prince William, after having passed the examination of maturity for the University, has entered the 1st Infantry Guard Regiment. Prince Henry, after having passed the examination for the second class, has gone to Kiel, and has thereby entered his naval career. Prince William was on the 9th of February presented by his father, the Crown Prince, to the regiment at Potsdam, where he is Lieutenant in the 1st company. The Crown Prince himself has begun his military career in this regiment and so do all the Prussian Princes. The Queen of England, grandmother to Prince William, presented him on this day with the order of the Garter, which the Emperor William and the Crown Prince have already, so that three generations are in possession of the same decoration. The English Ambassador, Lord Ose Russell, had received a special mission to present the order to the Prince on his birthday, without giving notice of this at Court, so that the surprise was general, and a very agreeable one to the parents.

Emperor William intends visiting Alsace towards the end of April. His Majesty's health is indeed wonderfully good this winter, though the Sovereign has suffered very much by the loss of his very beloved sister-in-law. The Emperor will fix his sojourn at Strasburg, and thence intends making shorter journeys to different places.

Prince Charles has left about ten days ago for Italy, accompanied by the two Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, his granddaughters. It is not yet known when their Royal Highnesses will return.

The Royal Opera has had a severe loss, Mr. Albert Niemann, the Wagner singer, *par excellence*, has left. The artist intends only to come back as a guest to our theatre, but will enter no other lasting engagement. He bought a very pretty property near Wiesbaden, and is retiring there. For the moment his loss is not so acutely felt, as Mr. Wachtel is staying here almost for the rest of the season. Wachtel is no longer a young man. Eighteen years ago he sang here for the first time, and charmed everybody by his splendid tenor voice; now he is far from being young, but his voice has retained all the old sweetness and perfection. The house is crowded whenever he sings that hours before the beginning, no tickets are to be had. Such voices are certainly a phenomenon. Wachtel has been to America several times, and always came back rich in laurels and dollars. After he has left here Madame Desiree Artot will arrive and give us a few nights; so that the season at the opera is very good. The house, of course makes no very brilliant impression, as most of the ladies are in black, and, if it were not for the many uniforms, would look very triste.

Great sensation is created by a splendid oil-painting exposed here for the last few weeks. The picture is 25 feet by 15, and is called "The Living Torches of Nero." The painting is done by a young Pole, living in Rome—V. Siemiradzky—and is the first work introduced to the public. It shows about 150 to 200 persons, life size, and represents the moment when, after one of his ill-fated orgies with his friends and slaves, Nero has been carried out in the garden, where fourteen Christians are tied on to flag-poles to be burnt alive. The conception is something wonderful, the execution of the innumerable details is unspeakably beautiful. The finest men, the handsomest women are seen in a profusion of rich flowers, vines, dresses, &c. Luxury in almost every imaginable shape is portrayed, and it is scarcely comprehensible that such a young man as Siemiradzky could accomplish such a work. It is an event in the history of painting. The picture has been exhibited in Rome, Vienna, Munich, Paris, and London. The rooms where the painting is to be seen are crowded, and constant controversies, arguments, and quarrels are going on before it. Everybody goes to see it, and Meiser's pictures have, if not been put in the shade, at least received a very dangerous rival.

The iron ship British Peer arrived from London yesterday.

ought to be the anxiety of Parliament make those boundaries intrinsically good, not to adjust them to the accidental circumstances of this particular year, in order by zig-zagging in all directions electoral stability might be more nearly secured.

IL SUMMARY VIA SAN FRANCISCO.—The summary colonial news for transmission to Europe via California, the steamship Zealandia, will be published in this city on Friday morning, April 6. Orders for extra should be lodged with the clerk at the counter, above. Our friends in the country are reminded that orders to stop for England will be too late after Friday night's mail.

OVERSEAS IMMIGRATION.—The Hon. the Colonial secretary has received a cablegram from Mr. W. C. C. of the following tenor:—

The *Edmont* left from Cooktown via the usual ports of call, left Brisbane at 5.20 p.m. on the 31st March, and anchored at

day last; and that the Coronet, with another batch, sail on the 23rd of this month. A third ship is to sail May. Mr. Parkes is also informed that the Sierra Leone, with 163 emigrants, left New York for Sydney on the 11th inst. The following is a copy of the manifest of the Sierra Leone, which sailed on the 29th March, 1877:—“Commonwealth of Massachusetts, sailed to Cork, Coroner, chartered for 25th inst. next ship about 15th May. Can continue good denizens at above intervals. More rapid supply tends reduce inferior class. Sierra Nevada, 153 emigrants, New York, 10th. Chiracness next ship, about 16th with 200.”

PRIME COURT.—Master’s Office.—This Day: At a n. s. s. v. Baker, to tax costs; at 11 a. m., and another v. Vickery and another, defendant’s evidence.

DISTRICT COURT.—APRIL SITTINGS, 1877.—The sitting for this month commences on Thursday, the 6th, with 10 a. m.

February 5.—Gottlieb, from Port Augusta; Eme, from Melbourne; Craigendarroch, from Adelaide; George Thompson, from Geraldton; Hermann, from Melbourne; and

11 a.m. to 12 noon. Will not be taken before 12 noon, finishing at 12 noon. **12 noon to 12.30 p.m.** Friday, 10th. Will not be taken before 12 noon, finishing at 12 noon. **12.30 p.m. to 1 p.m.** Saturday, 11th. Will not be taken before 12 noon, finishing at 1 p.m. **1 p.m. to 1.15 p.m.** Sunday, 12th. Will not be taken before 12 noon, finishing at 1.15 p.m.

NON-ATTENDED.—The following jurors were fined 2s for non-attendance at the Quarter Sessions recently:—**WILLIAM WATSON**, carpenter, 10, The Grange, 10, Waterloo-hatch, Lavender Bay; **CECIL WAY**, dairyman, Maree; **WALTER CROFT**, farmer, Concord; **NATHANIEL MANLY**, miller, 10, William-street; **JOHN WALKER**, gardener, 10, William-street; **JOHN WALKER**, clerk, Upper Esplanade; **JOHN MARWICK**, 10, William-street; **JOHN WALKER**, 10, William Lake, gentleman, Balmain.

THE FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.—The preparations for the Exhibition of the Agricultural Society, at the Agricultural Hall, are proceeding apace. Men are employed night and day in putting up the stalls, and in getting ready to display the goods, and Mr. Joubert, the estimable secretary, is everywhere at once, superintending the arrangements, and everything is going on so well, that the productions are to be shown as fixed, and more

Layton, Mr. Law.

the tattered effect that will be produced when the completed. The American and Canadian goods are being sent as quickly as possible, and no time is being wasted in transporting the goods to the coast. Some of the goods are now unpacked, and are arranged for exhibition. There can be no doubt that the value of this cargo will be enormous. All over the grounds the same activity prevails and it is evident that nothing is being left undone to make the show a success.

trous results from sending ships to sea with crews partly composed of unseaworthy men. It also referred to the incongruity

IN INCOMING SAN FRANCISCO MAIL.—We have favoured by the Postmaster-General with the following copy of a telegram, received this morning, from the Honorable Sir John Lubbock, British Minister at Honolulu, dated 9th inst., which he has kindly forwarded for our information. It reads as follows:—"The steamer *Sydney*, arrived here at 8 o'clock (Sunday). An accident happened on the upward voyage delayed her time. The machinery was damaged, and it took two days before reaching Honolulu. She arrived at Honolulu at midnight on the 12th instant, and there she had some machinery repaired. The action of the piston rod of the low-pressure engine the lifting gear gave way, and disabled the low-pressure engine. A survey was held by the engineers, who reported that the ship would be ready to start on Monday. The repairs necessary alterations were completed by the chief engineer, and the City of Sydney sailed at 4 p.m. on the 13th inst. and Kamehameha will follow in five days." Honolulu to Auckland was, notwithstanding, ordered at the rate of 50 miles per hour." It is scarcely probable that the City of Sydney will arrive here before Monday next.

BALLINA.

city from Camden, was severely injured in Georgia, opposite the Cathedral, through being knocked down by George Hagen. It was found necessary to convey Mr. Hagen to the hospital, in consequence of the accident state that Hagen's horse became ungovernable and was away with him, and that he was killed by the natives.

DEATH IN DABLINGBURG GAGE.—Mr. Shiell, the Coroner, held an inquest on Saturday at the gaol, on the body of an aboriginal named Jack Senger, used about 28 years. He was released from the gaol on the 20th inst. after being in Mullago, where he had been convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged. His sentence was afterwards commuted to 10 years imprisonment. He deceased at the hospital several days after his arrival, on the 16th ultimo, and continued under medical treatment the time of his death, which took place on Friday last. It was found that he had died of natural causes. Dr. Aaron, the visiting surgeon to the gaol, was of opinion that the deceased died from peritonitis.

Agency Company (Limited).
Head-Office—1, Queen-Victoria-street, Mansion House, London.

HOUSE ARREST.—A man named Ward was, Tuesday evening, apprehended by Constable Rooke, on information that he had uttered a forged bank note, purporting to be of the Australian Joint Stock Bank. In his possession were three other bank notes, which were found to be bank. They are clumsy productions, such as could easily escape detection by daylight. The prisoner was remanded until Tuesday next for further evidence as to the forgery.

ROOKE HOUSE ATHLETIC CLUB.—This club, which recently been formed in connection with Dr. Sly's school, took advantage of the breaking up of the school for Easter holidays to inaugurate its establishment by a gymnastic sports, which were held on the school grounds, including a number of ladies. The result of the sports was as follows:—

A CONSULTS DAILY AT 20, WYNARD-SQUARE, ONLY.

THE SPOILS.—The following cases have been sent for treatment:—A man named James Henry, 50 years of age, of the County of York, who has been blind, one of them (the left) extending to the bone; Carroll, cut lip; (George Elford), a cut on the arm; John Brown, who has run a nail through his nose in his institution; John Pearson, a cut on the knee; and J. Brown, suffering from a fracture of the ribs; at Ivory, who had received a wound on the scalp.

W. BUTTING.—A large building is about to be erected at York, for the purpose of manufacturing and storing gunpowder. Messrs. Cowan and Co., the well-known squires and importers of paper. Yesterday, the following persons were present:—

Furniture of the well-known Horner's Family Hotel,
Weyward-square, Sydney. For particulars, apply to owner.

ius of the present day was deposited in a cavity in the stone, after which the foundation stone proper, weighing about 8 tons, was lowered into position, and set with a few appropriate remarks from Mr. Nichols, truly laud. The party present then, at the invitation of Messrs. Tupper and T. Jennings, the contractors, adjourned to refreshment, when success to Messrs. Tupper and Co. and their new enterprise was cordially wished and responded to. The building will be erected of solid freestone from designs prepared by Mr. B. Benson. It will consist of five floors, including the basement, and have a frontage of 64 feet to York-street, and a depth of 100 feet in the rear. It will be decorated with Greek details imparted into it, and, judging from the plan, the structure, when finished, will add an important architectural feature to the locality in which it is situated.

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